RELIGION

FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

COURSE GUIDE

2016-2017

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

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DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION
UNDERGRADUATE COURSE GUIDE
2016-2017

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www.kcmetro.cc.mo.us/longview/socsci/philosophy/religion/symbols.htm

This course guide has been prepared months in advance of the 2016-2017 academic year and information contained herein is subject to change. Students are advised not to purchase any texts without the approval of the professor concerned.
Due to the renumbering of courses in the Department, students should consult the list of equivalent undergraduate courses in the back of the 2016-2017 undergraduate calendar.

FACULTY

A list of the full-time faculty follows below. All possess degrees from universities and/or schools of advanced studies that represent the best academic centres for the study of religion in North America and India. All have published books that have made a contribution to their particular fields of study, have published in learned journals and given papers at learned societies. They have also won a reputation among their students for being good teachers, concerned about the quality of instruction at Concordia University, as well as for being "available" and committed to the development of a more meaningful student life.

Full-Time Faculty

Interim Chair
Lynda Clarke, Ph.D. (McGill)

Professors
Lorenzo DiTommaso, Ph.D. (McMaster)
Richard Foltz, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Norma Joseph, Ph.D. (Concordia)
Leslie Orr, Ph.D. (McGill)
Ira Robinson, Ph.D. (Harvard) – Chair in Quebec and Canadian Jewish Studies

Associate Professors
Naftali Cohn, Ph.D. (University of Pennsylvania)
Carly Daniel-Hughes, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Marc des Jardins, Ph.D. (McGill)
André Gagné, Ph.D. (Université Catholique de Louvain/Université de Montréal) Department Theology
Norman Ravvin, Ph.D. (Univ. of Toronto)

Assistant Professors
Hillary Kaell, Ph.D. (Harvard)
Marc Lalonde, Ph.D. (Concordia)

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

General Objectives

The Department of Religion is dedicated to the academic study of religions and other social and cultural phenomena in so far as they have been influenced or affected by religions. We are interested in the comparative study of many religions. Although we do study how many religious traditions articulate and defend their own self-understandings, we treat these theologies and buddhologies academically and comparatively.

Nature of Religious Studies

The academic study of religion is a multi-disciplinary enterprise. It involves the historical examination of religious movements, the literary analyses of their literatures, philosophical reflections on beliefs and teachings, the social scientific investigations of their rituals, practices, texts, and institutions, the psychological study of their participants and ethical inquiries regarding both their moral writings and social roles.

Correspondingly, the faculty in the department have been trained in a number of academic disciplines including history, sociology, anthropology, literary studies, philosophy, psychology and theology as well as in the study of particular religious traditions.

KNOWLEDGE OF TWO MAJOR RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS

The Department believes that every Major or Honours student in Religion or in Judaic Studies should possess, at time of graduation, a knowledge of at least two major religious traditions. For example, the student who is pursuing a Major in Judaic Studies will take some courses in a religious tradition other than Judaism. This basic principle reinforces the emphasis upon the centrality of the discipline of the History of Religions. A particular religious tradition can best be understood in the context of the general religious history of humankind.

DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES

The Department of Religion offers at the undergraduate level: minors, majors and honours programmes in Religion and in Judaic Studies. The degree requirements for all of these programmes can be found below. We also offer several graduate programmes: an M.A. in the History and Philosophy of Religion, an M.A. in Judaic Studies, and a Ph.D. in Religion. For further information on our graduate programmes, please contact the graduate programme assistant at 848-2424 ext.2077.

Women and Religion

As part of the Department of Religion's undergraduate curriculum, a concentration in **Women, Gender, and Sexuality** is offered. A variety of special courses are included in the regular program for the BA major in Religion. Religion majors can focus on this area for either the primary or secondary concentration requirements.

The study of women and religion is a growing field in which the Department of Religion of Concordia University has long been a leader. This structured concentration solidifies our commitment to this field and enables us to prepare students in a systematic and consistent fashion. The concentration furthers the work of the department in that it will allow students to pursue course work from a comparative, cross-cultural and multi-tradition perspective. The study of the role of women in the history and practice of religion introduces our students to an exciting and vital area of study.

Degree Requirements

60 B.A. Honours in Religion:

12 In a language related to thesis; or in a related discipline such as: Anthropology, Classics, English Literature, History, Philosophy, Sociology, Women's Studies.
6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
21 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
18 From area of primary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
6 From area of secondary concentration (see areas of concentration below)
9 RELI elective credits at 300 or 400 level
3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Religion

6 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] or 215[3]
18 RELI elective credits chosen in consultation with Departmental advisor, excluding RELI 209, 210, 214, and 215

60 B.A. Honours in Judaic Studies

9 Chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew by a written examination may substitute RELI courses at the 300 and 400 level approved by the departmental advisor.
3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
12 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]
27 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, or 400 level. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course. Up to 12 credits may be substituted with courses in a related tradition and 12 credits with courses in a related language such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish, for a maximum of 15 credits combined
3 RELI 409[3]
6 RELI 410[6]

42 B.A. Major in Judaic Studies

9 Hebrew language, typically chosen from: HEBR 210[6], HEBR 241[3], HEBR 242[3], RELI 401[3]
Students who demonstrate fluency in Hebrew may substitute religion courses at the 300 or 400 level approved by the undergraduate advisor.
3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3], 215[3]
12 RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 328[3]

15 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, or 400 level. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course. Up to six credits may be substituted with courses in related traditions and related languages such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish.

3 RELI 409[3]

24 Minor in Judaic Studies

3 Chosen from RELI 209[3], 210[3], 214[3] a 215[3]

9 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

12 Electives chosen from courses in Judaism at the 200, 300, or 400 level. Up to six credits may be substituted with courses in related traditions and related languages such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish

24 Minor in Iranian Studies

12 Chosen from RELI 227[3], 305[3], 306[3], 313[3], 317[3], 318[3]

12 Chosen from any courses related to Iran in various departments at Concordia approved by the undergraduate advisor, including those not already taken at the first level of requirement. Examples of courses offered at various times include Pahlavi and other ancient Iranian languages, Modern Persian, Iranian Mythology, Manichaeism, Avesta, and Classical Persian Music. Students may also request credit for Iran-related courses taught at other Quebec universities.

Areas of Concentration

A - Asian Religions (18 credits) - chosen from any of the following:

6 Chosen from RELI 224[3], 225[3], 226[3], 360[3], 361[3], 362[3]

12 Chosen from any courses on the subject of Asian religions, including Islam. This may include courses not already taken from the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: With permission of the advisor, Major in Religion concentrating in Asian religions may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Chinese or Sanskrit. Honours students concentrating in Asian religions may also count an additional six credits of a related language study toward their program.

B - Christianity (18 credits)

6 RELI 223[3], RELI 302[3]

12 Chosen from any courses on the subject of Christianity. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: Majors in Religion students concentrating in Christianity may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Greek, Latin, or Coptic. Honours students concentrating in Christianity may also count an additional six credits of a related language study toward their program.

C - Judaism (18 credits)

9 Chosen from RELI 220[3], 301[3], 326[3], 327[3], 328[3]

9 Chosen from any courses on the subject of Judaism. This may include courses not already taken from the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: With the permission of the advisor, Major in Religion students concentrating in Judaism may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Hebrew, Aramaic, or Yiddish. Honours students concentrating in Judaism may also count an additional six credits of a related language

study toward their program.

D – Women, Gender, and Sexuality (18 credits)

3 Chosen from RELI 233[3], 380[3]

15 Chosen from any religion courses on women, gender, body, sexuality, or food. This may include courses not already taken at the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

E – Islam (18 credits)

6 Chosen from: RELI 224[3], 316[3], 319[3]

12 Chosen from any courses on the subject of Islam. This may include a course not already taken at the first level of requirement. It is recommended that students take at least one 400-level course.

NOTE: With permission, Major in Religion students concentrating in Islam may count up to six credits of a related language study, such as Arabic and Persian. Honours students concentrating in Islam must take at least six credits of Arabic and may also count an additional six credits of Arabic or another language related to Islam toward their program. Students who demonstrate competency in Arabic by a written examination may substitute Religion courses approved by the departmental advisor.

Southern Asia Studies

The Department of Religion participates with History, Political Science and several other departments in the Southern Asia Studies Programme which offers a major and a minor as follows:

MAJOR (42 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of History

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of Political Science

6 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the Department of Religion

24 credits Chosen from relevant courses in any department including but not limited to History; Religion; Political Science; Classics, Modern Languages and Linguistics; Economics; English; Geography, Planning and Environment; Sociology and Anthropology; the Faculty of Fine Arts; and the John Molson School of Business. Students may also request credits for Southern Asia related courses (including languages) taught at other Quebec universities.

MINOR (24 credits)

6 credits History 261 and Religion 215

3 credits Chosen from any relevant course in the Department of History, Political Science, Economics or English

6 credits Chosen from any relevant courses in the Department of Religion

9 credits Chosen from relevant courses in any department (see above) Please see the Undergraduate Calendar for further details on the Southern Asia Studies Programme.

30 Certificate in Iranian Studies

18 Chosen from RELI 227[3], 305[3], 306[3], 313[3], 317[3], 318[3]

12 Chosen from any courses related to Iran in various departments at Concordia approved by the undergraduate advisor, including those not already taken at the first level of requirement. Examples of courses offered at various times include Pahlavi and other ancient Iranian languages, Modern Persian, Iranian Mythology, Manichaeism, Avesta, and Classical Persian Music. Students may also request credit for Iran-related courses taught at other Quebec Universities.

For more information, contact:
Dr. Naftali Cohn: naftali.cohn@concordia.ca or Dr. Marc Lalonde: marc.lalonde@concordia.ca

SERVICES AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS

Student Advising
Students who have questions concerning their programme of study or need assistance relating to academic difficulties can contact the Department either by phone (848-2424, ext. 2065) or email religion@alcor.concordia.ca and make an appointment to meet with an undergraduate advisor.

Undergraduate Listserve
Religion students and students taking one or more Religion courses have the option of being added to the Religion Undergraduate Listserve. This listserve helps to keep students informed of upcoming events, guest speakers and academic deadlines.

Department Web Page
Visit the Department's webpage and find information on the various courses offered, course outlines, faculty research interests, guest lectures and conferences, information on our graduate programmes plus much more:
http://www.concordia.ca/artsci/religion.html

THE BOYD SINYARD AWARD

Each year the Boyd Sinyard award is given to the outstanding graduating student in Religion. The award is named after the first chairman of the Department of Religion at Sir George Williams University.

CONCORDIA RELIGION STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CRSA)

If you are studying within the Department of Religion (i.e. if you are an Honours, Major, Minor or just taking a course offered by the department), you are a member of the CRSA. CRSA is a student-administered organization dedicated to fostering community and expanding the educational experience of all Religion students. Each year the executive branch of CRSA (five students elected to plan and administer CRSA affairs) offers Religion students the chance to meet each other and faculty at various social gatherings, as well as the opportunity to enliven their education by attending CRSA sponsored lectures given by learned academics and religious thinkers from all parts of the world. CRSA members are urged to take advantage of the student lounge located in the

basement of annex R (2050 Mackay). This is a place where students can study, hang out or use the free phone. If you would like more information about CRSA, leave a message in our mailbox at the Department of Religion. The website is: www.crsaconcordia.weebly.com

COURSES
SUMMER 2016
(May 2 – June 22)

RELI 214/1 - A (3 credits) Meagher M.W. 1015-1230
RELIGIONS OF THE WEST
Instructor: Cimm

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that arose in Western Asia, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The course examines contemporary forms of religious life in those parts of the world where these traditions have spread, as well as indigenous religions. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these various traditions. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 214 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 226/1 - AA (3 credits) Linh Ildi T.J. ~~1215-1445~~ 13:15 – 16:00
INTRODUCTION TO BUDDHISM
Instructor: Marcel Parent

This course introduces students to the diversity of forms of Buddhism that have emerged in history and are practiced today. It examines those aspects that are shared in common by Buddhists all over the world, including reverence for the Buddha, support of the monastic order, and adherence to the Buddha's teachings. The course explores the ways in which these ideals and beliefs are expressed through such Buddhist practices as worship, study, pilgrimage, and meditation. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 350 or 364 may not take this course for credit.*

* RELI 214/2 A M.W. 4:15 – 5:30 pm
~~Fenwick~~ Steven MB 3.270

Maryam Askely

COURSES
FALL 2016
(/2 = Fall /4 = Winter)

RELI 209/2 - A (3 credits) H 553 T.J. 0845-1000
THE RELIGIOUS IMAGINATION
Instructor: Carl Marc-André

This course explores the conceptual elements that underlie the religious experience. These elements include the notion of the sacred, beliefs, cosmologies and myths, the origins and understanding of evil, ethics and salvation. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 215/2 – A (3 credits) H 553 W.F. 0845-1000
RELIGIONS OF ASIA
Instructor: ~~Fenwick~~ Marcel James

This course surveys the history, doctrines, institutions, and practices of religions that have arisen in and spread throughout Asia, including Hinduism, Buddhism, and the religions of China and Japan. The course explores the religious activities and experiences of both women and men within these traditions. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 213 or RELZ 215 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 220/2- A (3 credits) H 407 W.F. 1015-1130
INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM
Instructor: Ira Robinson Jesse

This course will examine the history of Jews and of Judaism from ancient times until the present. It will emphasize the continuities, changes and interrelationships with respect to Jewish social, religious and intellectual life through the ages. It will also carefully examine the varieties of belief and practice in contemporary Jewish life. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 222 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 223/2 - A (3 credits) M.W.0845-1000
INTRODUCTION TO CHRISTIANITY FG 8060 Elyze
Instructor: Alex

This course provides an introductory survey of key developments and enduring structures in the historical evolution of Christianity. It examines the variety of expressions of faith embodied in different churches and traces the ways in which beliefs, institutions, symbols, and rituals have in the past and continue today to carry forward the Christian tradition as a world religion in a variety of cultural contexts.

RELI 224/2 – A (3 credits) GN M100 M. T.1800-2015
INTRODUCTION TO ISLAM
Instructor: Richard Foltz Amanda

This course explores the religious tradition of Islam through the beliefs and practices of the vast number of Muslims scattered throughout the world – in the Middle East, South and Southeast Asia, North America, and other places. It examines the scriptures and common rituals or "pillars" of the religion, as well as expressions of life and culture in the past and present such as the law (shariah), mystical orders, and the arts.

RELI 225/2 – AA (3 credits) FG 8060 M.W.1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO HINDUISM
Instructor: Jose Linh

This course surveys Hinduism in its diverse history, sects, schools of thought, sacred texts, spiritual practices, and contemporary interpretations. We will focus on several prominent dimensions of the tradition, including the Hindu temple, mysticism and metaphysics in the Upanisads, karma and rebirth, dharma (religious duty and the cosmic/social order), moksha (liberation), gender and caste, devotional traditions, and narrative literatures. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 227/2 – AA (3 credits) H 509 J. 1800-2015
INTRODUCTION TO IRANIAN CIVILIZATION
(xlist HIST 298) AA
Instructor: Richard Foltz Maryam

Iran has played a central role in world history, giving rise to Zoroastrianism, Manichaeism, and the Baha'i faith, as well as numerous sects. Iranian culture has also played a major role in informing and transforming Judaism, Christianity, Buddhism and Islam. This course covers the long history of Iranian civilization and its influence on peoples from the Mediterranean world to South and East Asia in the realms of religion, literature, architecture, and the arts. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 412 or for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 233/2 - A (3 credits) H 620 T.J.1145-1300
INTRODUCTION TO WOMEN & RELIGION
Instructor: Manon Georgia

This introduction to the particular problems and issues in the study of women and religion uses case studies from various religious traditions. The course presents a survey of the different levels of participation, the complex ritual activities, and the intriguing divine imagery associated with women that are found in many religious traditions. Questions pertaining to the contemporary feminist discourse on such topics as witchcraft, matriarchy, and goddess religions are also explored.

H553

RELI 300/2 – AA (3 credits) W.20:30-22:45
CULTS AND RELIGIOUS CONTROVERSY
Instructor: Susan Ildi

This course takes a sociological and historical approach towards understanding new religious movements (NRMs), popularly known as "cults". The course examines the reasons for their controversial status in society, and undertakes a survey of the beliefs, rituals, leadership, membership, recruitment strategies, and social organization of a number of specific NRMs. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 217 or for this topic under a RELI 298 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 301/2 – A (3 credits) H 403 T.J. 1145-1300
HEBREW BIBLE
Instructor: Naftali Cohn Lindsey

This course introduces students to one of the great works of world literature, the Hebrew Bible. It familiarizes the student with the major genres of the Hebrew Bible and with the history, culture, and religion of ancient Israel. Particular attention is given to modern scholarly methods of interpretation, to the literary dimensions of the Bible, and to the subsequent development of Jewish interpretation and practice that builds on the Bible.

RELI 310/2 – A (3 credits) H557 M.W. 1445-1600
SELF AND OTHER: IDENTITY AND ETHICAL DEVELOPMENT
Instructor: Marc Lalonde Chloe / Nina

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of personal and interpersonal relations, families and friendships, and health and medical care. These issues are discussed in relation to traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered may vary from year to year, but may include discussons of conscience and career, privacy, sexual relations, harassment, substance abuse, abortion, euthanasia, and gay and lesbian relations.

RELI 320/2- A (3 credits) ~~H580~~ T.J. 1015-1130
THE MAKING OF CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes MB 3.445 Tirza

This course examines how Christianity emerged from a small, splinter movement within Judaism to become the religion of the Roman Empire. It traces the various debates that gave shape to this new movement, stressing the diverse perspectives evident in early Christian sources. Among the topics considered are Jewish and Christian relations, martyrdom and persecution, prophecy and visionary experience, orthodoxy and heresy, gender, sexuality and the body, canon and religious authority, as well as sacred space. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 303 or for this topic under a RELI 498 number may not take this course for credit.*

3/8/2 GN M/00

RELI 328/2 – A (3 credits) T.J.1015-1130
MODERN JUDAISM
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

This course surveys the major historical events, sociological and political forces, and intellectual currents which shaped Judaism in the modern period as well as the ways that Jewish communities responded to these forces. Among the topics explored are Emanicipation, forms of religious adjustment, anti-semitism, the experience of Jewish communities in Russia and North America, the Holocaust, and Zionism and the state of Israel.

RELI 333/2 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
STORIES IN JUDAISM
(xlisted ENGL 398 B)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin

In this course, stories are read from the entire scope of Jewish history – from the Bible to modern Jewish film and fiction. Each of these stories will reveal something about the cultures from which they emerged – their fantasies about themselves and about others; about humans, not-so-humans, and God; about life and death and everything in between. Taken together, these stories tell the story of Judaism, in all its inexhaustible variety and colour. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 360/2 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1015-1130
RELIGIONS OF CHINA
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course concentrates on the historical development of Chinese religions from the earliest periods of Chinese civilization to contemporary times. It investigates the relationships among the classical religious traditions as portrayed through scriptures, commentaries, and rituals. Focus is placed on the unfolding of the five great religious currents of China; the classical imperial cults, Daoism, Confucianism, Buddhism, and popular cults. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 349 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 362/2 - A (3 credits) M.W.1315-1430
RELIGIONS OF TIBET
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

The goal of this course is to familiarize students with current issues in Tibetan studies and to enhance understanding of Tibetan religion in Tibet, China and the rest of the world. It examines the "nameless" popular religions of Tibet, including mountain cults, shamanism, spirit possession and a variety of manifestations of popular religion. Students become familiar with the main schools of Tibetan Buddhism and the Bon religion, their history, dogma, lineages, philosophical enquiries, ritual and ascetic practices. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under a 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 380/2 - A (3 credits) T.J.0845-1000
RELIGION AND SEXUALITY
Instructor:

This course examines, from a comparative and historical perspective, the interplay between religion and sexuality. It looks at the development of attitudes towards sexuality within diverse religious traditions, and religious manifestations of sexuality. Topics include, among others: human reproduction, gender roles and identity, birth control, abortion, celibacy, sexual variance, and homosexuality.

RELI 384/2 - A (3 credits) T.1800-2015
WOMEN AND RELIGION: HINDUISM
Instructor: Leslie Orr

This course examines the roles and activities of Hindu women. Issues to be considered include the construction in history of models for the "Hindu woman" and the ways in which such models have shaped Hindu women's lives and experience, the religious activities of Hindu women, the contemporary concerns. The relation between abstract Hindu conceptions of "the feminine" – as a force to be revered, regulated, or repressed – and the actual circumstances and activities of Hindu women, both in the present and in the past, is discussed.

RELI 387/2 - A (3 credits) T.1315-1600
GODDESSES AND RELIGIOUS IMAGES OF WOMEN
Instructor: Norma Joseph/Leslie Orr

This comparative survey of female divinity and feminine imagery studies various religious traditions. Among the issues to be explored are the imaging of goddesses as mothers; the conception of forces like fertility, energy, materiality, and knowledge as feminine; the correspondences and relations between goddesses and women; and the contemporary feminist recovery of the Goddess.

RELI 394/2 – AA (3 credits) T. 1800-2015
HISTORY OF SATAN
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso

This course investigates the origins, development, and significance of personified evil,that is Satan and his demons, in early Judaism and in the history of Christianity. Consideration is given to some of the most important literary and visual depictions of this figure and his story from the ancient world through the Middle Ages to present day. The course sheds light on how intellectuals thought of this figure and also how Satan came to play an important role in popular culture down through the centuries. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 396/2 –A (3 credits) J. 1315-1600
FOOD AND RELIGION
Instructor: Norma Joseph/Leslie Orr

This course examines food cultures and food rituals and explores religious meanings and the making of religious identities. The preparing and sharing of food defines religious community and expresses religious values. In looking at food in several

world religions, this course focuses on how food can serve as a medium of transmission and transaction, and on the roles that women and men, gods and ancestors, and other beings and forces have in this network. **Note:** S*tudents who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 398/2 –C (3 credits) R103 T.1345-1545
(xlisted ENGL 398 C)
ASCENTS TO HEAVEN IN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: Lorenzo DiTommaso

This course examines the nature and functions of the trope of the heavenly journey in Jewish and Christian literature from antiquity through the Renaissance, with attention to the reception history of biblical figures and themes in post-biblical traditions. Topics for discussion include: i) the Ancient Near Eastern milieu; ii) early Enoch writings and the fall of the rebellious angels;; iii) Daniel, Ezra, and John as apocalyptic seers; iv) late antique Christian ascent apocalypses; viii) visionary literature in Byzantium; ix) mediaeval Jewish Hekhalot literature; x) mystical visionary literature of the High Middle Ages; and xi) Dante's *Divine Comedy.*

RELI 409/2 – AA (3 credits) MB 2:255 M.1800-2015
METHODOLOGY AND THE STUDY OF RELIGION
Instructor: Marc Lalonde
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This class explores the conceptual and practical foundations that have established the discipline and study of religion as it has developed over the last century or so. At the conceptual level we will be concerned to enquire: how have scholars gone about the study of religion? What sorts of approaches and methods have they relied on? What are the suppositions of these approaches and methods? What kinds of languages and philosophies have been used to explain such scholarly efforts? We will also attend to the various interests that have inevitably guided such research. What are these interests? What are their sources and inspiration? How are they related to wider social, cultural, and historical realities? Thus ours will be a critical examination of religious studies as we endeavour to understand, analyze, and situate the component parts that make up the method and study of religion today. However, we will also be concerned to put these critiques into practice. Toward that end, a portion of this course will be devoted to a guided fieldwork project.

RELI 498/2 - B (3 credits) R103 W. 1800-2015
(xlisted RELI 632/2 B)
THE DEVELOPMENT OF RELIGIOUS ETHICS TODAY
Instructor: Marc Lalonde
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

The purpose of this course is to compare and contrast two types of Religious-Philosophical Ethics. While both types contend that ethics is not an optional extra for the genuine human life, each endeavours to establish this fact in an opposing way. On the one hand, we will study the ethics of Emmanuel Levinas that entails a Judaic inspiration. For Levinas, ethics must be "otherwise than being," that is, meonotological. On the other hand, we will explore the ethics of Charles Taylor that entails a Christian inspiration. For Taylor, ethics demands an ontological articulation

of the full human life. Which approach is most compelling for religious ethics today? Or is it a matter of finding a middling position between the two? These will be just some of the concerns that guide our analyses. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/2– I (3 credits) R103 J. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 628 E)
ISSUES OF FAITH AND REASON IN MEDIEVAL JUDAISM, CHRISTIANITY AND ISLAM
Instructor: Ira Robinson
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course will address the common problem faced by medieval thinkers of the Jewish, Muslim and Christian traditions: how to deal with perceived differences between the teachings of divinely revealed scripture and the findings of rationalistic Platonic and Aristotelean philosophies. The writings of major medieval Jewish, Muslim and Christian thinkers will be examined in order to present a rounded picture of the strategies pursued by medieval rationalistic thinkers of all three religious traditions in dealing with this problem, and the intellectual revolution caused by this clash of world views. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating*

RELI 498/2 – F (3 credits) T .1800-2015
(xlisted RELI 613 F)
ISLAM AND THE OTHER
Instructor: Lynda Clarke
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

The course examines past and present attitudes of Muslims toward other religions as well as outgroups such as sectarian and sexual minorities. We will examine scriptures, law, and modern statements of various kinds to analyze the theory and practice of Muslim relations with the Other. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

498Z/2 2
Asceticism
Early

J. 14:30 – 16:45
FA 202

* 223 H565

COURSES
WINTER 2017

RELI 210/4– A (3 credits) W.F. 0845-1000
RELIGION IN PRACTICE
Instructor: Speros

Joseph H561

This course focuses on the day-to-day practice of religious traditions. Included are the expression of religious experiences through art, music, and scripture; transmission of these religious expressions through ritual, worship and mystical/ecstatic practices; and the construction and maintenance of different types of religious authority and communal identities. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for RELI 211 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 306/4 – AA (3 credits) J. 1800-2015
RELIGION AND SOCIETY IN CONTEMPORARY IRAN
Instructor: Richard Foltz

H 631

Heir to one of the world's great civilizations, Iran today is often viewed negatively by the West. However, the reality of life in the Islamic Republic differs in many ways from popular conceptions. This course explores the roots, development and current situation of a uniquely modern and dynamic contemporary Muslim society. Topics will include gender relations, political theory, contemporary literature and the arts.

~~**RELI 307/4 – A** (3 credits)~~ ~~T.J. 1445-1600~~
~~CHRISTIAN MYSTICS~~
~~Instructor:~~

Based on the study of significant texts, this course offers a historical and sociological exploration of the range of mystical and ecstatic experiences within the Christian tradition. Special consideration is given to the role which gender plays in understanding these experiences.

RELI 312/4 – A (3 credits) M.W. 1615-1730
JUSTICE AND SOCIAL CONFLICT IN A GLOBALIZED WORLD
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

Cal H557

This course considers ethical issues arising in the context of social, legal, and political relations. These issues are discussed in relation to both traditional and contemporary moral perspectives, both religious and non-religious. Topics covered typically include discussions of social and economic inequality, welfare, poverty, just punishment, business ethics, public ethics, economic development, and sustainable development. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for RELI 332 or RELZ 312 may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 313/4 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1315-1430
ZOROASTRIANISM
Instructor: Manjeet

H403

Zoroastrianism, though counting no more than a few hundred practitioners today, is one of the most significant traditions in the history of religions, providing a world-view and ethical framework later adopted by Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This course covers

the 3,000-year history of Zoroastrianism, including controversies surrounding its origins, its contributions to other religions, its eventual decline, and the Zoroastrian diaspora of contemporary times. Reading from the Avesta and other texts are in English translation.

RELI 317/4 - AA (3 credits) T. 1800-2015
SUFISM
Instructor: Jose FG B070

The course explores the emergence and development of Islamic mysticism, beginning with pious individuals in the eighth century and coalescing into institutional forms by the 10th. Attention is given to the teachings of key mystical figures, the Sufi orders, and the social role of Sufism. Sufi poetry, music, and other forms of devotion and practice are studied in the contexts of diverse Muslim societies over the past 1,000 years.

RELI 318/4 - AA (3 credits) W. 1800-2015
SHIITE ISLAM
Instructor: ~~Lynda Clarke~~ RF

This course explores the history and ideas of Shiism, from the inception of the movement to the present. The various sects are introduced and studied, including the Twelvers, Ismailis, Druze, and Alawites. Shiite doctrines related to esoterism, quietism, and messianism are considered in comparison with other religions, while study of the modern period treats subjects such as theocracy, political activism, and martyrdom.

RELI 319/4 - A (3 credits) Dorota M.W. 1145-1300
MODERN ISLAM
Instructor: ~~Ramezz~~ Jose FG B040

This course surveys some of the questions raised by modernity for Muslims and the various responses Muslims have sought to formulate and put into practice. Issues addressed may include government, law, gender, relations with the West, and religious authority.

RELI 331/4 – A (3 credits) T.J. 1015-1130
LITERATURE AND THE HOLOCAUST
(xlisted ENGL 398F)
Instructor: Norman Ravvin Jesse H820

Religious, historical, literary, and political contexts have been applied to come to terms with the events of the Holocaust. All of these are relevant as students read important and provocative novels dealing with such issues as ethics, the relationship between art and history, the use of humour and popular cultural forms, as well as the way that storytelling helps direct our understanding of events that are often said to be incomprehensible. The wider impact of fiction dealing with the Holocaust on the popular media, including film, CD- ROMs, video, and news reporting, is also considered. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 343/4 – A (3 credits) M.W.1015-1130
YOGA IN HISTORY, THOUGHT & PRACTICE
Instructor:

This course examines the history, thought, and practices of Yoga in their religious and cultural contexts. In the modern West, Yoga has become popular as a secular form of exercise. However, as this course shows, the diverse Yoga traditions of India have also involved sophisticated analyses of the mind and systems of meditation. Intrinsic to no single religion, Yoga has had roles in most South Asian traditions, including Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sufism or Islamic mysticism. The course surveys this rich history, and the various forms of meditative and physical discipline Yoga has entailed. **Note**: Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.

RELI 350/4 – A (3 credits) M.W.1315-1430
THERAVADA BUDDHISM
Instructor:

This course examines the early history, doctrine, institutions, and practices of Buddhism in India, and follows the development of Theravada Buddhism in the countries of Southeast Asia up to the present day.

RELI 373/4 - A (3 credits) M.W.1445-1600
INTRODUCTION TO MYSTICISM
Instructor: Marc Lalonde

This course examines the concepts of mysticism articulated by contemporary scholarship. It then looks at mystical texts and experiences from a variety of religious traditions both comparatively and with respect to their position within the dynamic of their own traditions.

RELI 378/4 - A (3 credits) T.J. 1145-1300
DEATH AND DYING
Instructor:

This course provides a comparative perspective on the variety of conceptions and practices related to death and dying that are found in different world religions. In addition, the course considers how people in contemporary North American society utilise traditional religious concepts and rituals, scientific understandings and medical procedures, or innovative combinations of ideas and practices to cope with, and make sense of, the problem of death. Lectures, discussions and some small group work will constitute the major teaching methods. Guest lecturers will be invited. Students should complete the course with some general understanding of, and critical appreciation for, the ways in which different religious traditions explain death and its attendant issues, and how these might assist individuals in coping with their own death or that of others.

RELI 381/4 - A (3 credits) T.J.1145-1300
WOMEN AND RELIGION: JUDAISM
Instructor: Norma Joseph H403

This course explores the status and religious roles of women within the Judaic tradition. Its focus is on the practice of the religion, especially the ritual and legal spheres. The relationship between common practice, popular attitudes, and formal legal principles is examined in order to inquire into issues of gender and religion.

RELI 382/4 - A (3 credits) M. W .1615-1730
WOMEN AND RELIGION: CHRISTIANITY
Instructor: ~~Donald~~ Alex Laurel H629

The focus of the course is the role of women and the conflicting patterns of gender construction in the history of Christianity. Through a critical use of primary and secondary sources, both visual and textual, the course explores the sources of women's power and subordination in order to illuminate the relationship between gender and the Christian tradition.

RELI 386/4 - AA (3 credits) W.F.1015-1130
WITCHCRAFT, MAGIC AND RELIGION
Instructor: Mana Manon H411

This course approaches the study of magic, witchcraft, and religion from a variety of perspectives. Taking examples from indigenous cultures, the ancient world, medieval Europe, the early modern period and contemporary movements, the practices and rituals that have been labeled magic or witchcraft are examined, along with the responses to them. The course explores how magicians and witches view themselves, how different cultures relate to them, and how magic, witchcraft, and religion merge and diverge. **Note**: *Students who have received credit for this topic under an RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 388/4 - A (3 credits) T.J.1015-1130
THE BIBLE AND SEXUALITY
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes Lucas H561

This course examines the wide variety of perspectives on sexuality within Scripture. It considers the ancient contexts in which these texts were composed as well as how Jews and/or Christians have read these texts over time, in light of changing notions of sexuality and gender. Among the topics considered are gendered and sexual identities, celibacy, marriage, same-sex relationships, human reproduction and child-rearing, and sexual desire. Ultimately, it addresses how the Bible reflects and has informed the various Jewish and/or Christian perspectives on these issues. **Note:** *Students who have received credit for this topic under a RELI 398 number may not take this course for credit.*

RELI 398/4 – F (3 credits) M . W . 1015-1130
(xlisted HIST 398C)
RELIGION AND POLITICS IN CHINA H403
Instructor: Marc des Jardins

This course will begin with the study of early concepts of religious practice and rites during the Han dynasty and will proceed to identify religious elements of important rebellions, social and intellectual movements throughout Chinese history such as the Yellow Turbans rebellion and the Five Bushels of Rice (*wudoumi dao*) of Zhang Jue in Sichuan. It will look at the collusion of religious sects, power and religious persecutions (ex.:444 and the Toba Wei persecution of Buddhism under a Daoist monarch). It will also research the relationships between the Imperial systems such as the imposition of imperial laws governing the different religious institutions during the Tang dynasty. It will also investigate religious, political as well as economic factors which were behind the Huichang Persecution (845) of Buddhism. It will then proceed to investigate government regulations on religion during the Imperial Period (Song to Qing) and will focus on case studies of significant importance (ex.: the Northern Song and the Daoist Shenxiao Sect; Mongol rule and the Quanzhen Sect of Daoism; Buddhism and Neo-Confucianism in the Ming; The Manchu patronage of Buddhism; popular religions, rebellions and how local cults became national religious movements during the Ming-Qing Periods). Finally we will seek to understand better the attitude towards religion of the present Chinese government in regards to its historical heritage.

RELI 398/4 – ~~A~~ B (3 credits) Negotiating Diversity M .W.1145-1300
~~CHRISTIANITY AND THE MODERN INTERFAITH MOVEMENT~~
Instructor: ~~Religions in Conflict~~ Laune

This course introduces students to key developments within the history of the Modern Global Interfaith Movement with an emphasis on Christian contributions. It traces diverse Christian approaches to interfaith relations prior to the 1893 World Parliament of Religion, including parallel developments with the Christian Ecumenical Movement, and maps growth throughout the 20th century. The study examines key people/events, various types of interfaith dialogue, the range of voices within and those missing, assessment of challenges overcome and remaining, with case studies of contemporary organizations and actions.

RELI 405/4 – (3 credits) J.1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 670 A)
FOOD, SEX, AND DEATH IN JUDAISM R103
Instructor: Naftali Cohn
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course explores three activities associated with the body – food, sex, and death – as they have been constructed throughout the past 2,000 years of Jewish history. Special attention is given to the cultural contexts in which Jewish practices and attitudes have been shaped, to the relationship between ritual practice and the construction of supernatural worlds, and to the interaction between embodiment and religious experience. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4– A (3 credits) T. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI ~~694 A~~) 630 Religion & Film in NA
~~HEBREW BIBLE & CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE~~
Instructor: Norman Ravvin
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department FA 202

This course is designed to complement department offerings on canonical texts and on religion literature. It will introduce students to important literary works of the past century that aim to update, revise or provocatively interrogate established religious texts and narratives. We will discuss the historical and literary character of the Hebrew Bible and its influence on broader literary traditions. We will focus on the way its narratives supply literary tradition with archetypal stories, characters and motifs. The urge to rewrite aspects of the biblical tradition recurs over time, and we seem, in the past decade, to have reentered another period of literary vitality based on the Bible. Students interested in Jewish canonical texts, modern literary canons, popular literature, biblical narrative and religious culture in the secular world will find engaging material in our readings. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4 – C (3 credits) T. 1445-1600
(xlisted RELI 641 C)
THE CHRISTIAN BIBLE FA 202
Instructor: Carly Daniel-Hughes
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

Christian scripture is comprised of divergent themes, vastly different genres (history, poetic texts, apocalypses, letters), and even conflicting views of the religious life, God, and Jesus Christ. How did Christians come to include these books in their canon, and why? How did, and do, Christians account for the cacophony of voices in them? Do all Christians have the same Bibles? What are the different ways that Christians have understood the Bible's authority? Are its words sacred, or the ideas contained in it? What about the Bible as a material object? How have they understood the role of interpretation and translation? Or the relationship between biblical books, such as the Old and New Testaments? Considering key moments in Christian history from the Roman world to global Christianities today, we will explore the complex interactions between Christians and their Bibles. (This course assumes some previous background in biblical studies, such as RELI 301 and/or RELI 302). *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

RELI 498/4 – L (3 credits) M. 1600-1815
(xlisted RELI 614 L)
TANTRIC TRADITIONS IN ASIA FA 202
Instructor: Marc des Jardins
Prerequisite: Permission of the department

This course examines the history, textual sources, ritual, philosophies, and social contexts of the tantric or "esoteric" traditions of South and East Asia, and explores the roles of tantric practice in the broader landscape of Asian religions and cultures. The course will focus on major trends in Indian religions in South Asia as well as in the Buddhist world beyond. *This is a seminar-format course in which both upper level undergraduate and graduate students will be participating.*

Department of Religion - Timetable Fall 2016

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
0845-1000	223	209 380	215 223	209 380	215
10:15-11:30	360	320 328	220 360	320 328	220
11:45-13:00	225	233 301	225	233 301	
13:15-14:30	362	333 387 (until 1600) 398 C (1345-1545)	362	333 396 (until 1600)	
14:45-16:00	310		310	498 Z (1430-1645)	
16:15-17:30					
18:00-20:15	409	224 384 394 498 F	498 B	227 498 I	
20:30-22:45			300		

Department of Religion - Timetable Winter 2017

	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI
0845-1000			210		210
10:15-11:30	343 398 F	331 388	343 386 398 F	331 388	386
11:45-13:00	319 398	378 381	319 398	378 381	
13:15-14:30	350	313	350	313	
14:45-16:00	373	307 498 C (until 1645)	373	307	
16:15-17:30	312 382 498 L (1600-1815)	498 A (1600-1815)	312 382	405 (1600-1815)	
18:00-20:15		317	318	306	
20:30-22:45					